

[T. K. Velu Pillai.]

Questions are being asked about answers furnished to the Sri Chitra State Council, as, for instance, in question No. 215. It has been answered today here, for instance, in reply to question No. 215, that the answer furnished to the Council was wrong. It may happen, Sir,—as it happens frequently here—that the same person who happened to be member in the Council is a member of this Assembly also. It may also happen therefore that the member might have to admit that the statement furnished by the member in the Council was incorrect. On such admission, the question may naturally be raised by honourable members of this House whether the Sri Chitra State Council was not a body who could not understand their business since they had accepted an incorrect statement as an answer to a question put by them. That would be a reflection on the other House. Therefore, I want to have a ruling from the Chair as to whether such questions, which are likely to result in reflections on the other House, can be allowed.

MR. K. KUNJAKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon*): I raise another point of order, Sir, whether a point of order could be raised at any time or whether it is not necessary that the points should relate the subject under discussion.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha I*): On a point of order, Sir, may I know whether, before one point of order has been disposed off, another could be raised?

PRESIDENT: No: certainly not.

In as much as the point raised by Mr. Velu Pillai relates to a question which has already been put and answered, I suppose it will not be useful to give any ruling on it now unless another similar case arises. That, I think, would be the simplest way to dispose of the matter.

Establishment of Village Panchayat at Edapally.

219. * MR. K. P. KRISHNA MENON (*Tarur*): Will the Government be pleased to state with reference to the answer to question No. 229 of the last (Makaram) Session of this Assembly:

(a) whether the petition for the establishment of a Village Panchayat at Edapally was forwarded to the Edapally Chief by the Peishkar;

(b) if so, whether any reply was received from the Chief;

(c) whether the Chief is in favour of the proposal; and

(d) whether a copy of the report of the Tahsildar on the said petition could be placed on the table of this House?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*):

(a) No. It is reported that the Tahsildar sent the petition to the Edapally Chief for remarks.

(b) Yes.

(c) Yes.

(d) No.

MR. K. P. KRISHNA MENON (*Parur*): May I know the reason why the report of the Tahsildar cannot be placed on the table?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Correspondence between Government and their officers is confidential.

MR. K. P. KRISHNA MENON (*Parur*): Were the petitioners informed why a Panchayat cannot be established at Edappalli?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The petitioners were informed that the Government do not consider it necessary to establish a Panchayat there.

MR. K. P. KRISHNA MENON (*Parur*): May I know why the Government do not consider that necessary?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Government have based their decision on the report of the Division Peishkar.

MR. K. P. KRISHNA MENON (*Parur*): May I ask whether Village Panchayats are not intended for the benefit of the people?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Yes, they are.

MR. K. P. KRISHNA MENON (*Parur*): Then may I know why the Government do not consider it necessary to establish a Panchayat at Edappally?

PRESIDENT: The Chief Secretary has stated that the decision of the Government was based on the material before them.

MR. K. MAHOMED (*Alwaye*): May I know whether, if the Edappally Chief has no objection, Government will be pleased to establish a Panchayat at Edappally?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Sir, the Peishkar's report says that, unless the Panchayat is invested with judicial function, there is no necessity for a Panchayat there—and if the Panchayat is not to be invested with judicial powers, I do not know whether the people themselves may want it. The Government have been informed by the High Court that, under the existing circumstances, Panchayats could not be invested with judicial functions.

MR. K. P. KRISHNA MENON (*Parur*): Are there Panchayats—

PRESIDENT: The member has exhausted his turn. After another member has asked supplementary questions, I cannot allow you again to put further supplementary questions.

Minor Irrigation work in the Chirayinkil taluk.

220. *MR. K. PADMANABHAN (*Chirayinkil I*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(a) whether any amount is allotted for minor irrigation work in the Chirayinkil taluk during the current year (1110); and

(b) if the answer to part (a) is in the affirmative,—

(i) the amount allotted;

(ii) the amount expended this year; and

(iii) the works undertaken this year?